CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, I will draw some concluding points which are based on my analysis in Chapter Three. In the previous chapter, I use van Dijk’s theory in analyzing the text.

In my analysis, I only analyze the micro level which consists of the macrostructure, the microstructure and the superstructure analyses. The macrostructure analysis is an analysis which focuses on the global meaning of the text. In other words, it focuses more on the topic of the text.

It has been explained in the previous chapter that Robert Spencer’s Muslims, Our Natural Allies? is an analytical exposition which consists of the thesis statement, the argument and the reiteration, which means that these three parts build the text as whole text.

As explained before, the global topic of the text can be found in the thesis statement and the reiteration, both of which contain Robert Spencer’s ideas about Islam which he wants to show to the readers. Therefore, by reading these two parts closely I can clearly see Robert Spencer’s point of view towards Islam. Here
he wants to show that Islam through its Jihad and Sharia is something bad and dangerous.

Moreover, on the argument part, Robert Spencer shows two things which make Islam something bad and dangerous, which are Jihad and Sharia. In the text, Robert Spencer talks about these two things using negative words particularly, Jihad violence and Sharia injustice. He judges Jihad as something very cruel and that Sharia constitutes Islamic law which promotes injustice.

Personally, I disagree with this Robert Spencer’s opinion about Islam. Jihad is not something bad and cruel as Robert Spencer’s claim. On the contrary, it is something good. But we must really know the true meaning of Jihad.

As mentioned in the previous chapter, Jihad means striving or struggling in the sake of Allah (God). However, some western people have the wrong understanding of the true meaning of Jihad. They are misled to think that Jihad enforce terror, that it means killing people, self-bombing, crashing a plane into buildings, etc. Actually, Jihad has a good meaning. According to the Qur’an, there are many forms of Jihad, for example Jihad by heart, which means always believing in God, and Jihad by action which means praying five times a day, reading the Qur’an, fasting, helping other people, giving alms. Nevertheless, sometimes there is a misconception in understanding Jihad by action. This is supported by the statements from the terrorists who loudly claim that their actions are done for Jihad. That is why today the word Jihad becomes negative. As being shown in the text, Muslim women are forced to wear hijab. Here Robert Spencer claims that forcing women to wear hijab by threat is something very cruel. Even
sometimes many Muslim men will kill the women in the name of Jihad if they do not wear hijab, which means they do not follow Sharia (Islamic law). Actually what being shown by Robert Spencer in the text is the action from some extremists or terrorists. They clearly do the wrong action because in Islam killing people constitutes great sin.

In addition to Jihad, Robert Spencer explains about the injustice of Sharia (Islamic law) in the text. He mentions that the Islamic law is something intolerant and unfair. In the text it is shown that killing apostates is right because it is same as killing people who deserve to die and therefore, the executor has no sin in doing that. This shows how intolerant and unfair the Islamic law is. However, it is a fact that many Muslims uphold religious liberty. They also respect other religions. Despite that fact, however, in his text Robert Spencer does not see it that way. He says that on the one hand, there are many Muslims who respect the freedom in adhering any religion. On the other hand the law in Islam forbids Muslims to do apostasy. What’s more, whoever does this will be killed. This clearly shows that the Islamic law does not support religious liberty.

In this terms of, I disagree with Robert Spencer. The reason is that in his text he only quotes other people’s statements without really understanding the meaning of those statements. For example, he quotes the prophet Muhammad’s words, who says “whoever changed his Islamic religion, then kill him.” Here Spencer truly does not know the context of that statement, to whom the statement is given, what condition at that time and the most important thing is who says the statement. In Bukhari 9.84.57, the statement is made by Ibnu Abbas, who is one of close friends of the prophet, and the context is related to Atheists.
In the microstructure analysis, the lexicon of the text is dominant in showing the writer’s opinion. That is why I focus more on lexicon in doing my analysis. In the text, Robert Spencer uses many negative words to represent Islam. Remembering that Robert Spencer’s *Muslims, Our Natural Allies?* is analytical exposition, I can conclude that the use of negative words in the text functions to influence the readers to have the same opinion as the writer, which is Islam with its Jihad and Sharia (Islamic law) is something bad for the western world.

In the superstructure analysis, it is shown how a scheme builds the text. As mentioned in the previous chapter, Robert Spencer’s *Muslim, Our Natural Allies?* is an analytical exposition. So, the scheme which forms the text is arranged from the thesis statement, the argument and the reiteration.

To close this chapter, I would like to give suggestion for other researchers who are interested in doing Critical Discourse Analysis, especially text analysis using van Dijk’s theory. I suggest they should be detailed and specific in analyzing the text of their choice. They also have to be structured, which means that their analyses have to be neatly arranged so that the writer’s ideas can be seen clearly.

Seeing the fact that nowadays there are many texts which are blurred and inclined to be discriminative, we are demanded to be very critical towards a text. Therefore, I hope my analysis can give additional contribution to those who wish to do Critical Discourse Analysis.

(1026 words)